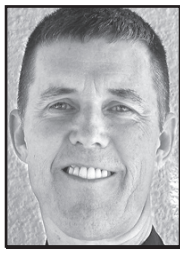


# Life in fast lane disdains God

*The Lord saw how great man's wickedness ... had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. The Lord was grieved that he had made man ... and his heart was filled with pain (Genesis 6:5-6).*



**Robert Alexander**

• From the Pulpit

Mankind kept the pedal to medal, kept living in the fast lane, kept doing evil upon evil, and eventually crushed the heart of God.

These were the finest of his creation and they were treating him with disdain, totally disregarding their creator. Mankind had become a spiritual Frankenstein's monster, a beast that was ugly to the bone and unbearable to look at. Like Dr. Frankenstein, God decided to destroy his creation with a worldwide flood.

Finding someone who was "normal" and a "keeper," God chose Noah and his family. While this family was far from perfect, God held out hope through them for a new and wonderful start, a reboot of sorts.

But, alas, soon after the flood, seeing Noah get drunk and one of his sons' lack of respect for his father, God said some of the saddest words we could ever hear from him: "The intention of man's heart is evil from his youth" (Genesis 8:21).

Today our hearts still reflect that evil. While we may not shoot up a movie theatre full of people or a temple full of worshippers, or carry out other atrocities, we cannot and should not think that our hearts are pure and without

evil or that we are somehow better than "those people" — after all, it's not guns that kill people it's the people who shoot them.

If we acted upon some of the hateful words that came out our mouth or upon some of the thoughts that passed through our mind, those acts would make headlines and we'd be on the stage of public condemnation. Our hearts are evil from the time we are conceived (Psalm 51:5).

Even if we do deeds that the world lauds as good those deeds are tainted by evil, tainted by our sinfulness (Isaiah 64:6). Evil thoughts are common because our minds are "hostile to God" (Romans 8:7). Our nature is such that we are spiritually ugly to the bone. To our last breath, we deserve God's eternal punishment because we daily break his heart.

God shows us that his heart is not so broken that he can't and won't love us. His heart beats to save us, to make us more than what our sinful nature makes us.

While we were still "uglier than sin," "Frankensteinish," he had his son die for us. Who in

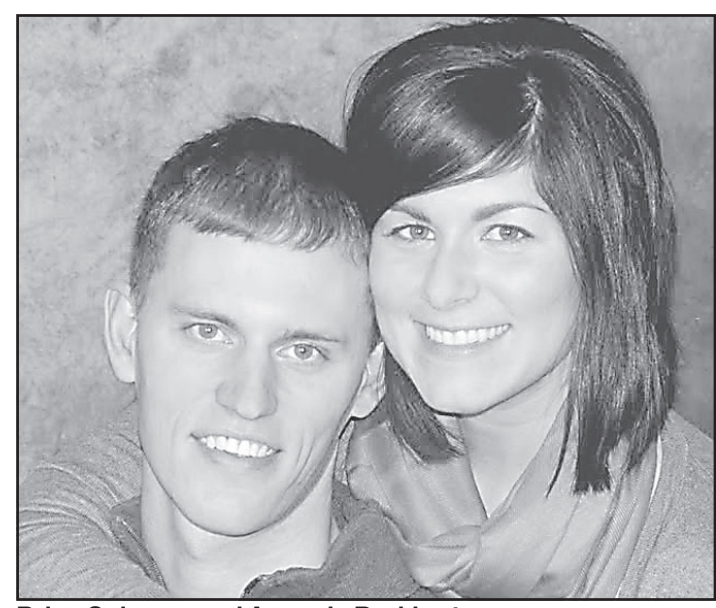
their right mind would lay their life down for someone who is evil? The Son of God, Jesus Christ, was in his right mind, and it was his intention to willingly die for evil people like you and me.

While hanging on the cross, having already been innocently beaten and whipped, Jesus "had no beauty" (Isaiah 53:2). He was literally ugly to the bone in suffering and dying so every bone in our body could be free of sin, forgiven and reconciled with our Lord. The beauty, the glory that shone through, came when he rose from the dead so that we could be saved from God's eternal punishment and experience his glory in our own resurrection.

What Jesus did doesn't get rid of our ugly sinful nature, but having been baptized by him into his death and resurrection we have a beauty that only God fully sees right now — we'll see when we see his beauty in heaven. We are "Beauty and the Beast," sinner and saint. Some day the beast will be dead and the beauty will live forever with Christ.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for not letting our heart breaking thoughts, words and deeds stop You from loving us and saving us through Jesus Your holy Son. Amen.

*The Rev. Bob Alexander is pastor of the Trinity Lutheran Church at Fifth and Country Club in Colby. He may be reached at 462-3497.*



Brian Sulzman and Amanda Burkhart

## Omaha ceremony planned by Colby grad

Amanda Burkhart and Brian Sulzman of Omaha, Neb., plan to marry Saturday, Sept. 1, 2012, at the Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church in Omaha.

The bride is the daughter of Duane and Nancy Burkhart of Omaha.

In 2012, she received a Masters of Arts degree in teaching, learning and teacher education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is a second grade teacher at Ashland Park-

Robbins Elementary in Omaha. The groom is the son of Wayne and Deanna Sulzman of Colby.

A 2004 graduate of Colby High School, in 2010 he graduated from Wayne State College in Nebraska with a bachelor's degree in health and physical education. He is a physical education teacher at the George Beadle Middle School and coaches baseball at Millard South High School in Omaha.

## Correctional center hiring

Corrections Corporation of America is hiring people to work at its privately run prison in Burlington, Colo.

"We know that there are many Kansans still looking for work," said Erin Bracken of Hillenby LLC, a public-relations agency working with the firm. "Positions vary, but include correctional officers, counselors, case managers and warehouse workers."

Applicants can search for openings at [www.ccajob.com/jobs](http://www.ccajob.com/jobs), she said. Candidates must be at least 20; interviews will be conducted at the facility, the Kit Carson Correctional Center.

To drum up enthusiasm, Bracken said, the corporation manned

a booth earlier this month at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair in Goodland.

"CCA offers full-time employees a competitive compensation package, including a 401K plan and health benefits," Bracken said. "The company is dedicated to promoting from within, as evidenced by its CEO, a 20-year veteran of the organization who began his career as a correctional officer."

She said the corporation is consistently ranked as one of the top employers of ex-military by *GI Jobs* magazine and provides educational opportunities and professional and personal support.

For information, go to [www.ccajob.com](http://www.ccajob.com).

## High Plains Lions Club

The High Plains Lions Club met July 23 at Mary Hurr's home for a home-cooked dinner.

President Melinda Morton conducted the meeting. Donna Lawver and Cassandra Britt were guests.

Hurr had the program, and had invited Britt, a social worker, to give information about the Alzheimer's Walk. The Alzheimer's Association is hoping to get Colby and surround communities to join in on this fund raising event.

"All of us are seeing more and more individuals and families being affected with Alzheimer's Disease," said Britt. "Nursing homes are seeing the increase in need in the area."

This year's walk will be at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, in Fike Park, with registration starting at 9 a.m. There is no cost to walk, but individuals or teams are encouraged to get sponsors. Britt invited the Lions to walk as a club or as individuals.

District Governor Sheryl Brenn

read the names of those with 100 percent attendance for the previous year.

Larry Koon gave a report on the Whittaker Trailer — "It is done." It has taken several years to complete. Koon added that it could use some better tires.

New business was mainly about the Thomas County Fair. Melinda Moore had purchased supplies for the concession trailer, and reported on repairs to the trailer. Justin Burris demonstrated a new nacho cheese dispenser. Two members were to be in the parade.

A new member was voted on and accepted, effective when dues are paid.

There were 93 hours of in community service.

Larry Brenn won the drawing. The next meeting was to be Monday in the Colby Community College Student Union.

— Roger Hale

## Fun day planned in Hays

Children are invited to join Thomas the Tank Engine on a fun-filled, sing-along adventure filled with teamwork, discovery and friendship on Saturday, Sept. 22, in Hays. The Really Useful Engine will be at the Ramada Inn, 3603 Vine St., with the Smoky Hills Public Televisions Family Fun Day at 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

"Through community events like the Smoky Hills Public Television Family Fun Day, we have the opportunity to reach out to our viewers and give back," said Michael Quade, general manager of the station. "We are excited to bring the Thomas and Friends show to our local viewership and we look forward to seeing children and their families enjoy the experience."

The event will be from 9 a.m.

to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, at the Ramada Inn in Hays. This event will feature a live stage show from Thomas and Friends, games, food, Bumpy Knuckles the clown and face painting.

Event passes can be bought in advance at [www.smokyhillstv.org/familyfunday](http://www.smokyhillstv.org/familyfunday), by e-mail at [tfax@shptv.org](mailto:tfax@shptv.org) or by calling the television station at (800) 337-4788. Passes are \$10 each and include 10 game tickets. Children under 2 get in free.

Children can also enter a coloring contest for a chance to win a family four-pack of event passes. The contest is open to children ages 2 to 10 and the coloring sheet can be downloaded from the Family Fun Day website. The finished sheet can be mailed directly to the station and one winner will be chosen from the entries.

## Corrections

*The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.*


## Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$8.03
Corn (bushel)	\$8.02
Milo (hundredweight)	\$13.57
Soybeans (bushel)	\$15.46

## English as a Second Language Class Information Meeting

Wednesday  
August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 p.m.  
at the  
Thomas County Learning Center  
485 N. Chickamauga  
Colby, KS 67701

For more information call 785-465-7900



## Stop and Take a Moment

**IF YOU HAD 3 WISHES, WHAT WOULD YOU WISH FOR?**

I have to confess something, I often allow my mind to drift into fantasy land. Where I escape thinking, 'if I only had three wishes what would they be'. I bet you too have thought about the 'three wish thing'. I want to ask you to think about it. For real. If you had three wishes; would you ask for a million dollars, an exotic vacation, to become a super model...a new Harley? I have often just wished my house was clean...or that Jim had fixed the leaky toilet. Now, that would be wasting my wishes...Right? So, if it was for real, I would hope not to waste them on material gain, moments of escape, or the need to control another...but instead I would do this. I would tell the Jeanie in the bottle here are my 3 wishes: (1) May be corny, but I would like to request peace worldwide. Just think what it would be like without hate. (2) A wish for no incurable sickness. Just think no more cancer, AIDS, Addiction...good thought huh? (3) My final wish would be for everyone to know and feel true love. Just think what a person could do if they truly felt love and gave love. So...I revealed my sincere 'real' three wishes'. Please share on my facebook page what your three wishes would be.

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# Services Directory

## Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



<p><b>FAITH FELLOWSHIP CHURCH</b>, Pastor Dan Keel, 815 W. 3rd. Sundays at 2 p.m. 337-401-7207 (temp)</p> <p><b>CELEBRATION COMMUNITY CHURCH</b>, 1890 S. Franklin Ave. - Colby Community Building. Pastor Dave Funk. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. <a href="http://www.celebratejesus.org">www.celebratejesus.org</a></p> <p><b>GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP</b>, 2nd and Sunrise, Oakley. Pastor James Bloom, Sunday Morning Worship and Children's Church 10:15 a.m., Wednesday evening Bible Study and Intercessory Prayer 6:30 p.m. 785-671-4020.</p> <p><b>COLBY INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH</b>, 730 E. 3rd (former Jaycee's building), Pastor Bernard Heinz, 785-460-0313, Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>ASCENSION-ON-THE-PRAIRIE EPISCOPAL</b>, Rev. Don Martin, College Drive &amp; Wheatridge Rd., 785-462-3041, Holy Eucharist, 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. Evening Prayer, 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, September through May. Christian Education for Youth, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, September through May.</p> <p><b>COLLEGE DRIVE ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b>, 245 W. College Dr., Colby. Pastor Steve Todd. Sunday School 9 a.m. for all ages. Worship 10:15 a.m. Kid's Church for Kindergarten- 5th grade during Worship Service. Nursery available for kids birth - 5 yrs old. Wednesday night: Family night September - May. Meal served 6 - 6:30 p.m. CD Kidz for kids birth - 5th grade, Youth Group for 6th - 12th graders and Adult Bible Study at 7 p.m. 785-462-8234. <a href="mailto:cdag@st-tel.net">cdag@st-tel.net</a>.</p> <p><b>BEREAN CHURCH</b>, 1000 S. Franklin, 785-460-2763, <a href="http://www.colbyborean.com">www.colbyborean.com</a>; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. and Saturday, 5:30 p.m.. Pastor Mark Carlton, Youth Pastor Ben Phillips. Middle School Group Wednesday 7 p.m. at the Attic and High School Youth Group Sunday 6 p.m. at the Attic. AWANA Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the church.</p>	<p><b>WINONA METHODIST CHURCH</b>, 501 Bellview Ave. Rev. Sheryl Johnson, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 9:15 a.m. (CDT)</p> <p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH</b>, (Affiliated with American Baptist Churches USA) Rev. James Bridges, 615 W. Webster, 785-462-2867. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.; Family Worship: 10:30 a.m.; Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>COLLEGE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH</b> (Affiliated with Southern Baptist), 1185 Wheatridge Rd. at College Drive, 785-460-7144, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship services, 10:45 a.m. Prayer Service at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday's. Contemporary Evening Service at 4 p.m. through the semester.</p> <p><b>PLEASANT HOME CHURCH</b>, Pastor, Perry Baird, 785-728-7380, 3190 Road 70, Edson, Worship, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m. (MST)</p> <p><b>MINGO BIBLE CHURCH</b>, 420 Main Street, 785-462-2992: An independent community church served by Village Missions Pastor Tom Peyton. Sunday School: 9:30 AM - all ages. Worship Services: 10:45 AM. Sunday Evenings 6:30. 3rd Sunday informal fellowship - bring a snack to share! First Sunday of month - carry-in dinner following morning worship.</p> <p><b>SACRED HEART CATHOLIC</b>, 785-462-2179, Father Dana Clark, Pastor, Saturday Eve. Mass 5:30 p.m., Sunday Masses 8:00 &amp; 10:00 a.m., Confessions will be heard Saturday 4:30-5:05 p.m. and from 7:30-7:45 a.m. and 9:25-9:40 a.m. on Sunday.</p> <p><b>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH</b>, Rev. Carol Rahn, 515 W. 4th, 785-462-6342, Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Podcasts of the worship services are available at the church website <a href="http://colbypres.org">colbypres.org</a>.</p> <p><b>OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH</b>, Brewster, Sunday worship 9:00 a.m.; 2nd Sunday of the month at 8:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>WESLEYAN CHURCH</b>, 320 W. Pine - 785-462-8391, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:40 a.m., Sunday Evening Cell groups at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday Youth Ministries, Kids Clubhouse 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS</b>, 1145 S. Franklin - 785-460-6605, President Andy Rose, 785-460-6807. Sacrament meeting 10 a.m., Sunday School and Primary 11:20 a.m., Priesthood, Relief Society, YM/YW, 12:10 p.m.; Family History Center open by appointment. Call 785-462-3571.</p> <p><b>REDEEMING LOVE MINISTRIES, INC.</b>, 345 N. Franklin, Dr. W.G. and Rev. Orvella Romine, Equipping Class, Sunday, 9 a.m., Sunday worship, 10 a.m., Wednesday, R.L.M Training Centers (Bible School), 6 p.m. Shop online at: <a href="http://www.rlmregionalchurch.com">www.rlmregionalchurch.com</a>.</p> <p><b>COLBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b>, Rev. James Mardock, pastor, 950 S. Franklin, 785-460-6521, Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., Fellowship coffee 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., KXXX broadcasts 11:00 worship. <a href="http://www.colbyumc.org">www.colbyumc.org</a></p> <p><b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b>, Minister, Jarrod Spencer. 510 E. 4th, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Bible Study 7:00 p.m. <a href="http://www.colbychurch.com">www.colbychurch.com</a></p> <p><b>THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF, REXFORD</b>, Joan Dingwerth, Director, 785-687-2565.</p>	<p><b>FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b>, (Disciples of Christ), Pastor Lyle Knebel, 385 W. 3rd - 785-460-2718, Sunday Morning Worship and Children's Church at 10:00 a.m.</p> <p><b>TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH</b>, Rev. Robert Alexander. East 5th &amp; Country Club, 785-462-3497. Services, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Beginning June 3 - Sunday Worship Service 9:30 a.m., Adult Bible Class &amp; Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Visit us at <a href="http://www.trinitycolby.com">www.trinitycolby.com</a>.</p> <p><b>LEVANT COMMUNITY CHURCH</b>, 205 1st St., Pastor Charles Taff, 785-586-2376, Sunday School (classes for 3 years &amp; up and 3 adult classes) 9:30 a.m., Morning worship 10:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>BREWSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b>, PO Box 250, Brewster. Pastor Mike Baughn, 785-694-2278, Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.</p> <p><b>REXFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH</b>, Rexford, Pastor Lane Purcell, 785-687-3305, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>BREWSTER COMMUNITY CHURCH</b>, Mike Pinkelman, Pastor, Brewster - 785-694-2720, Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Wed. mornings 6:30 a.m. - Men's Bible Study, Wed. 7:00 p.m. - Children's Ministries (Royal Rangers/Missionettes), Wed. 7:15 p.m. - Intercessory &amp; Prayer, Tue. 5:00 p.m. - Women's Bible Study.</p>
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Colby United Methodist Church

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